



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

28 JULY 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles—Three Men Charged with Running Interstate Sex Trafficking Ring

(U) Authorities say three people have been charged with pimping eight teens for commercial sex work in a ring that operated in California, Nevada and Texas. Los Angeles County Sheriff Jim McDonnell and California Attorney General Xavier Becerra said yesterday that 54 felony charges have been filed against Quinton Brown, Gerald Turner and Mia McNeil. Investigators say the trio solicited customers from postings on the internet, with McNeil using stolen identities to rent apartments for use as brothels.

SOURCE: 27 July 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Sacramento—City Sees Rise in Illegal Marijuana Grow Houses

(U) Sacramento police are increasingly encountering illegal marijuana operations in residential neighborhoods throughout the city, with at least a half dozen discovered in July alone. Joe Devlin, the city's new marijuana policy czar, estimates there could be 1,000 illegal growing operations in Sacramento and has called for the city to increase its enforcement. The Sacramento Police Department is responding by assembling a unit of officers that will be assigned to investigating and enforcing illegal operations in residential neighborhoods, said Deputy Chief Ken Bernard.

SOURCE: 27 July 2017, [Sacramento Bee](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia—US Orders Diplomats' Families to Leave Venezuelan Capital

(U) Washington—The United States is ordering relatives of American diplomats to leave the Venezuelan capital ahead of a polarizing vote planned for 30 July to start rewriting the country's constitution. The State Department says it's also allowing US government workers to depart the embassy in Caracas and limiting the movement of those who stay. An updated travel warning also urges American citizens not to travel to Venezuela due to social unrest and violence.

SOURCE: 27 July 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Indiana—Police Officer Fatally Shot by Survivor of Car Wreck

(U) Southport—A police officer responding to a rollover car crash in an Indianapolis suburb yesterday afternoon was fatally shot by a person in the wrecked car, according to authorities. Lt. Aaron Allen of the Southport Police Department was the first officer to arrive at the scene of the crash and was shot as he approached the car, which had flipped off a roadway and rolled into the front yard of a home. Police have released few details about how the episode unfolded, and it was unclear how the car lost control or whether the occupants were wanted by the police. The car's occupants were taken to the hospital and are being held there by police.

SOURCE: 27 July 2017, [New York Times](#)

(U) Michigan—More Than \$2 Million in Marijuana Found in Detroit-Bound Vehicles

(U) Detroit— Immigration and Customs Enforcement found nearly 300 pounds of marijuana, worth more than \$2 million hidden in Detroit-bound Ford and Lincoln vehicles. According to ICE, 227 pounds of

marijuana was discovered inside the vehicles at the Ford Rail Distribution Facility in Woodhaven. The discovery comes just over a week after \$1 million in marijuana was found in brand new Ford Fusions at a dealership in Ohio. In both instances, the vehicles were imported from Mexico. Ford is cooperating and taking the incident seriously, according to ICE.

SOURCE: 27 July 2017, [ABC 7 Detroit](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) El Salvador—Hundreds of MS-13 Members Arrested

(U) San Salvador—Salvadoran authorities have announced the detentions of 442 members of the transnational Mara Salvatrucha street gang. Officials say the arrests took place over the past two days during a visit to El Salvador by US Attorney General Jeff Sessions. The Salvadoran Attorney General's Office says the anti-gang unit and police forces collaborated in the operation targeting the country's eastern regions. Those captured will be prosecuted on charges of kidnapping and membership in a terrorist organization.

SOURCE: 27 July 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Nigeria—More Than 40 Believed Killed in Boko Haram Attack

(U) Maiduguri—More than 40 people have died in north-east Nigeria during an attempt to free people who were ambushed in a convoy by the militant group Boko Haram, according to sources. Details of what happened on 25 July remain unclear, with initial reports from the army suggesting the abducted geologists and surveyors, who worked at the University of Maiduguri, had been rescued. However, the university has said at least five members of staff, including two academics and a driver, were killed when the heavily armed convoy made its way back to Maiduguri. Several others remain missing.

SOURCE: 28 July 2017, [BBC](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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